**Stage 1 Child Studies**

**Assessment Type 1: Practical Activity Action Plan**

**Task**

***Research the pre-natal changes to the developing foetus, and the cognitive and emotional development of children and create an appropriate teaching aid to help a child up to the age of 8 years to understand what is happening during the pregnancy.***

**Issues**

The area of study *(The Nature of Childhood and the Socialisation and Development of Children)* is being explored through developing an understanding of the cognitive and emotional needs of children throughout their mother’s pregnancy. This knowledge will enable a decision that will meet the cognitive and emotional needs of the child.

The teaching aid needs to allow the child to bond and connect with the developing baby.This is will help to develop the emotional maturity of the child in preparation for the new addition to the family.

*‘The ages and emotional maturity of the child will determine, in part, his or her behaviour toward a new family member’ [[1]](#footnote-1)*

The age of the child will determine the type of information that is included. By the age of two, children are able to carefully turn the pages of a book and notice fine details in pictures. By the age of five they are making more detailed drawings which indicates a greater awareness and understanding of their surroundings. [[2]](#footnote-2) Children learn better when they are enjoying themselves so it needs to be appealing.

**Decision**

A ‘Golden Book’ style story book with flaps that lift up to expose the growing baby, suitable for a 3-4 year old child.

**Reason**

Children of this age are familiar with books and should be confident to interact with them. The child can choose to engage with the book themselves, and so initiate the connection with the mother if he chooses. The pictures will be taken from a website that has drawn 3D images. This is because whilst the images look life like, they are not really frightening, and this will mean that the child has a positive experience when looking at the book. The lift-up flaps add interest and allow the child to interact with the book on her own terms. This safeguards her emotional well being as she is given choices and therefore feels valued.

**Implementation**

The Book will be designed on the computer using Microsoft Publisher and made from thin, white cardboard, with a “golden book” style cover. The images will be sourced from the internet and the text will be written in simple, non-threatening language. The images will be printed in colour directly onto the pages, and the flaps constructed and glued on.

Word count: 420

Bibliography

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1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)